

DISASTER NEWS

Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses

Release Date: June 21, 2006 Contact: Richard A. Jenkins Release Number: LA 10176 - 6 Phone: (916) 735-1500

SBA Disaster Loan Application Deadline for Small Businesses Suffering Economic Losses After Hurricane Katrina Is One Week Away

Sacramento – Small businesses which suffered economic losses as a result of Hurricane Katrina have one week left to apply for a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL). The deadline to apply for small businesses in the areas affected by Hurricane Katrina is June 28.

Small businesses affected by Hurricane Katrina may apply for EIDLs of up to \$1.5 million to help pay their fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, and other bills that can't be paid because of the disaster's impact. The interest rate on these loans is 4 percent with terms of up to 30 years.

SBA Customer Service Representatives are still available at the Business Recovery Center at One Canal Place, 365 Canal Street, Suite 1050, in New Orleans to issue Economic Injury Disaster Loan applications, answer questions about SBA's EIDL program, explain the application process and help each business owner complete their application. The center is open Mondays through Fridays from 8 am to 5 pm and Saturdays from 9 am to 2 pm.

SBA also continues to have Customer Service Representatives at Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC), SBA Outreach Centers and a Business Assistance Center throughout the area of Louisiana impacted by Katrina. Businesses may call SBA's Customers Service Center at (800) 659-2955 for locations and hours of operation on these centers.

Business owners who are unable to visit SBA in person may obtain information and loan applications by also calling SBA's Customers Service Center. Applications also may be downloaded from SBA's website at www.sba.gov/disaster. Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339.

Completed applications may be mailed to SBA at 14925 Kingsport Road, Ft. Worth, TX 76155 or taken to any DRC or SBA assistance center.